

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A method of selecting data for use in decoding an embedded watermark in compressed multimedia data, comprising the steps of:

- calculating a quality metric for a given part of the compressed multimedia data, based on the degree of compression of the multimedia data;
- including in a watermark decoding process, the given part, if its quality metric is higher than a certain threshold, and;
- excluding from the watermark decoding process, the given part, if its quality metric is lower than the threshold.

2. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the method additionally includes the step of using the same quality metric to select data to use in a scale-detection process performed before the watermark decoding process.

3. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the quality metric is calculated on the basis of an analysis of a compressed data stream.

4. (original) A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the quality metric is calculated on the basis of one of the following parameters associated with the compressed data stream: Quantisation factors; the number of Variable Length Codewords (VLCs) used to code a data frame; Motion Vectors.

5. (original) A method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the quality metric is calculated on the basis of a plurality of parameters associated with the compressed data stream.

6. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the quality metric is calculated on the basis of an analysis of base-band data.

7. (original) A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the quality metric is calculated on the basis of a measure of the energy of a frame.

8. (original) A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the quality metric is calculated on the basis of a plurality of parameters associated with the base-band data.

9. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the given part of the data is a frame.

10. (currently amended) Apparatus arranged to perform the method
of ~~any one of the preceding claims~~claim 1.